31st October 1935]

Communal representation in the cadre of assistant panchayat officers.

* 350 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the total number of the assistant panchayat officers that are working in the province is; and

(*b*) to what communities they belong?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Of a total number of thirty-seven assistant panchayat officers sanctioned to district boards (vide Annexure to G.O. No. 2216, L. & M., dated the 11th June 1935, appended to the answer to question No. 61 delivered on 6th August 1935), the post sanctioned to the Nilgiris District Board has since been kept in abeyance as there is at present no work for an officer in that district. The appointments to these posts vest in the presidents of district boards concerned and Government have no information as to the number of the officers actually working now, or the communities to which they belong.

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"The answer says that 'appointment to these posts vests in the presidents of district boards' and therefore the Government have no information. Will the Government call for the information in view of the fact that the Government have undertaken to observe communal rotation in regard to services under the local boards?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"It is not possible for Government to obtain information in regard to all classes of appointments made by the presidents of district boards and local boards. I may also state that in regard to assistant panchayat officers, a good many of the posts recently sanctioned are being filled by men who are already in the service of the district boards and those occupying posts of rural reconstruction officers in panchayat areas, etc."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Is the principle of these communal Government Order applicable to these appointments?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"As far as the officers are concerned, the communal Government Order is not being applied."

Duties of district panchayat officers.

* 351 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the work assigned to the district panchayat officers is;

(*b*) whether a copy of the order assigning work to them will be placed on the table;